

AETC News Clips Randolph AFB, Texas



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Jeanne Jakle: Compelling TV doc examines S.A.-based medical team in Iraq

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It may be rough on the squeamish.

Fictional operating-room dramas such as FX's "Nip/Tuck" have nothing on these real, life-and-death surgery scenes, which are expected to be highly graphic.

However, this national TV documentary — which focuses on a hospital located in a hotbed area of Iraq and manned by San Antonio medical teams out of Lackland AFB — also promises to be fascinating, compelling and moving.

"Iraq: Frontline-ER," debuting at 8 p.m. Sunday on the Discovery Health Channel (Time Warner Channel 44 here), spent three days with medical personnel from Wilford Hall and the 433rd Airlift Wing at Iraq's biggest and busiest medical hub, Balad AFB. The base is 50 miles north of Baghdad in one of the most attacked areas in Iraq.

So you can imagine how intense every day there is at this round-the-clock facility. The military medical teams must respond to life-threatening emergencies involving both wounded soldiers and civilians, sometimes while the hospital itself is under attack. During the one-hour special, viewers will follow seven wounded soldiers as they are being treated and then evacuated to Germany and eventually reunited with their families in Washington, D.C. We watch as they struggle to cope with their life-altering injuries.

The special also celebrates the medical professionals — the majority of whom hail from Wilford Hall — who spend 120 life-changing days away from their homes, families and civilian practices. Sort of a real life "Over There," we witness the compromises, camaraderie and compassion of those who serve in such a dramatic environment.

'Over There' is over

Speaking of "Over There," the powerful Iraq war drama has come to a close and, alas, won't see a second season on FX because of inadequate ratings.

Of special note is the work by San Antonio's own **Clint Mabry**, an amputee and aspiring actor, who served as the below-the-waist double for his cousin **Josh Henderson**. Henderson played Bo Rider on the series, a dedicated soldier whose right leg is blown off during a land-mine explosion. Mabry, a graduate of Smithson Valley High School, lost his leg after a devastating car accident in 2000.

Missing 'Woody'

Mornings still aren't the same for many since the well-liked team of Woody & Jamie was yanked from KXXM ("The Mix" 96.1).

The show was replaced about a year ago by a syndicated morning program that is led by a guy out of the Dallas/Fort Worth area, **Kidd Kraddick**.

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Trouble is, everyone expected **"Woody" Woodward** to pop up on another station — sidekick **Jamie Martin** stayed on at The Mix doing the midday shift — but he's still nowhere to be heard.

"Woody and crew really bonded with the community like no other show," writes a fan. "They did so much good (Mud King, fundraising, school appearances), not to mention they were so funny.

"If he is still here with his barbershops," she continues, "why hasn't someone else put him on?"

Woody, who theorizes his cut was a money-saving move — the ratings had remained strong, after all — just opened up a second Roosters male grooming shop. Now his family owns two — one on Stone Oak Parkway, the other on Bandera Road.

Though business is booming, he still has a powerful hankering to do another radio show in San Antonio, a city he dearly loves. So, radio bosses, what about getting on the horn and phoning him?

Is mom hilarious?

Sick of the moans you get when cracking your best jokes for your kids? Then try doing it for an appreciative audience and maybe even get a chance to compete on Nick at Nite's "Search for the Funniest Mom in America 2."

Auditions will be held Monday at the Rivercenter Comedy Club. Sign-up starts at 7:30 p.m. with performances following at 8:30 p.m.

The show is looking not only for stand-up comics, but all kinds of entertainers: variety, musical, magic acts, just about anything. There are no age restrictions, but the material should be clean, rated PG-13.

If accepted to compete on TV, you'll vie for the grand prize of \$50,000. Last year, a San Antonio mom — **Leigh Anne Morgan** —made it to runner-up, according to the Rivercenter. The valuable exposure gave her the career springboard she needed. For more details, call **Ben Huerta** at (210) 229-1420.

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